SHOWDOWN SATURDAY

Wolverines bring plenty of swagger against No. 4 Spartans

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ON GUARD FOR 186 YEARS

Detroit Free Press

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BACK IN THE USA

FCA's shift from Mexico: invest $1B in Warren, add 2,500 jobs

"This has become somewhat of a Ram country here in Macomb County."

Macomb Co. Executive Mark Hackel

TOP: Workers leave the FCA Warren truck plant. FCA also announced $2,000 bonuses that will be paid in the second quarter of this year to 60,000 hourly and salaried employees. ERIC SEALS/DFP

RIGHT: The Ram 3500 Heavy Duty truck will be built in Warren by 2020. FCA US

Eric D. Lawrence Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles will invest more than $1 billion to modernize the company's Warren Truck Plant in metro Detroit, adding 2,500 jobs and moving production of its Ram Heavy Duty trucks from Mexico.

The changeover is to be complete in 2020.

The company said Thursday evening that the new federal tax law made the shift possible. That legislation, signed into law in December, cut the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%.

FCA also announced $2,000 bonuses that will be paid in the second quarter of this year to 60,000 hourly and salaried employees in the U.S., excluding senior leadership. Those bonuses are to be in addition to any profit sharing or performance bonuses the employees would receive this year.

"These announcements reflect our ongoing commitment to our U.S. manufacturing footprint and the dedicated employees who have contributed to FCA's success," Fiat Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said in a news release. "It is only proper that our employees share in the savings generated by tax reform and that we openly acknowledge the resulting improvement in the U.S. business environment by investing in our industrial footprint accordingly."

The investments will likely be one of the topics Monday when Marchionne is scheduled to speak to reporters at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

Natalie Farquhar of Port Huron works as a laborer at Center Line Packaging, which is part of FCA's Mopar division. The 23½-year company veteran was thrilled by the announcement.

"Wow! Wow, that's great. That's wonderful," Farquhar said, noting that the investment and bonuses tell her the company is doing well. She said she is hopeful the company will also start making full-time

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▫ A look at the Warren Truck Plant.

▫ Fear of NAFTA changes seen as factor in move.

Report: Trump uses vulgar slur during immigration discussions

Jessica Estepa USA TODAY

During immigration talks in the Oval Office on Thursday, President Donald Trump reportedly grew frustrated, using a crude description of Haiti, El Salvador and African countries, according to a report from the Washington Post.

"Why are we having all these people from shithole countries come here?" Trump reportedly told lawmakers.

The president then suggested that the U.S. try to increase immigration from countries like Norway, whose prime minister he met with this week.

The Post's report was based on two sources who were briefed on the meeting, which was attended by Sens. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Dick Durbin, D-Ill.,

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President Donald Trump reportedly used profanity to disparage African nations in a meeting Thursday with lawmakers about immigration. EVAN VUCCI/AP

Waste plant in Van Buren Twp. seeks OK to treat toxic dioxins

Keith Matheny Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

The largest hazardous waste treatment facility, by volume, in the country — US Ecology's Michigan Disposal Waste Treatment Plant in Van Buren Township — is seeking permission to expand its operations even more and wants approval to take in some of the most toxic man-made chemicals on Earth, dioxins.

Michigan Disposal, off I-94 near Willow Run Airport in western Wayne County, accepts hazardous wastes from industries and government cleanups in Michigan and throughout the U.S., treating and stabilizing them to a point where they can be disposed of at an appropriate landfill — frequently the nearly 600-acre Wayne Disposal landfill surrounding the treatment facility, also owned by US Ecology.

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